

May 2015 Issue 497

# THE DISPLACEMENT OF ALBANY'S SOUTH END ITALIAN POPULATION

By Richard Ognibene

On Sunday, March 29th, IACC members and guests filled the Board Room to watch the documentary The Neighborhood That Disappeared, written and produced by Mary Paley with the assistance of several other individuals familiar with Albany history. The documentary tells the

story of the destruction of a vibrant, European-style community in order to make room for the Empire State





former Governor Nelson Rockefeller. Construction of the Plaza began in 1959 and was completed in 1976. The story is told through beautiful photographs of the community taken by Paley's father, a professional photographer for the Knickerbocker News, and through

interviews with people (mostly but not exclusively Italian), who were children living in the South End at the beginning of the construction period. Several of the individuals interviewed are members of the IACC.

Audience response to The Neighborhood That Disappeared has been so tremendous that Paley's film team has entered production on a companion documentary about Albany's Italian South End. It will have a more personal feel than the political emphasis of the first film. The team is seeking photos and Super 8 film of life in the South End of Albany prior to 1962. Immigrant portraits, family portraits, scenes that show street life, photos of small businesses (storefronts or interiors), images of WWII servicemen, and images and memorabilia from St. Anthony's Church and School are particularly welcome. If you have such material and wish to share it with Ms. Paley, contact her at (518) 729-5624 or omikronicles@nycap.rr.com and help her turn our ancestors into movie stars.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I previously stated, there is only one thing that is inevitable and that is change. On April 3<sup>rd</sup> our office manager, Linda Sciocchetti, informed me that she would be leaving our employ as of April 17<sup>th</sup>. She explained that she had made this decision with a very heavy heart. However, with two children in college, she needed to find full-time employment. We wish Linda all the best in her endeavors and thank her for the many years of service she has provided us.

On an interim basis, my daughter Kathryn, has graciously offered to be trained in this position, lending her knowledge in Marketing Management and Supply Chain Management (B.S. degrees from Syracuse University) and Music Business (M.A. degree from NYU) along with her extensive knowledge and experience with computers and social media. I ask for your patience and assistance during this transition period.

One of the other changes you may notice is a new Vizio HD 40" Smart TV in our Membership Room for your viewing enjoyment. We have also renovated our large second floor men's bathroom into two rooms: One room is now a family ADA compliant bathroom. The other room will become a kitchenette for members' use and, hopefully, some cooking demonstrations.

May will offer us some old favorites including Men's and Women's Bocce Leagues. Events in the pavilion and the pool will begin soon. I encourage all to participate in a fun-filled (snow-free) season.

Happy Mother's Day!

June 24, Wednesday

Jim Sano, President

### **May Calendar**

View our complete online Calendar at italianamerican.com

Every Monday	Italian Grand Buffet
	Open Bowling
May 6, Wednesday	Foundation Board Meeting, 6:30 P.M.
May 11, Monday	Men's Bocce League begins
May 12, Tuesday	Women's Bocce League begins
May 13, Wednesday	55+ Club Meeting
May 17, Sunday	Mother/Daughter Luncheon and
	Fashion Show
May 20, Wednesday	Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
	General Membership Mtg, 7:00 P.M.
Save the Date	
June 1, 8, 15	Italian For Travelers Language Class
June 14, Sunday	St. Anthony Mass, Procession,
	and Luncheon 10:30 A.M.

Bus Trip to Yankees Game

### ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

257 Washington Avenue Extension Albany, New York 12205

A place where family and friends can meet, eat, play and celebrate Italian heritage

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#### IACC OFFICE

Kathryn N. Sano, Office Manager Monday - Friday 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Phone: (518) 456-4222 IACCOffice@ItalianAmerican.com

### IACC FOUNDATION

257 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany Foundation@italianamerican.com

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Please submit articles, suggestions, or comments to: Rachel Cameron, Editor, rcamero@nycap.rr.com

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# **Mother/Daughter Luncheon and Fashion Show**



# 55+ Club By Sharon Patrei

We hope you will be able to join us on May13<sup>th</sup> for our first luncheon to discuss trips and speakers for our monthly meetings. If you haven't called in your reservation yet, contact Carole Mann at 373-0375.

Our next luncheon is scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> at noon in Treviso's Lounge Room. Our meal choices for June are veal and peppers and oven baked whitefish, accompanied by a tossed salad, rolls, and dessert. If you would like a cocktail or glass of wine, feel free to order on your own tab. The price for lunch will be \$20. Please call Maria Marchio at 438-9067 with your reservation. You may pay Sharon Patrei the day of the luncheon.



Monday evenings for three weeks

June 1, 8, 15

7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

2nd Floor, Italian American Community Center

### Cost of session:

\$50 Members • \$60 Non-Members credit cards accepted

Call the IACC Office 456-4222 to register



## **IACC Foundation Book Club**

By Richard Ognibene

My Two Italies

. JOSEPH LUZZI .

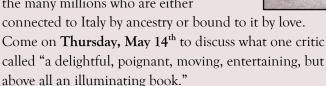
### North vs. South, Italian Style

The Book Club's last meeting this spring will be held on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. We will discuss *My Two Italies* by Joseph Luzzi, a recent and well-reviewed non-fiction account by an American-born child of Calabrian parents. The author describes the perennial differences between the more modern north and the peasant south, between the cultures that produced both the artistic genius of Michaelangelo and rampant political corruption. The child of Italian immigrants and an award-winning scholar of Italian literature, Joseph Luzzi, straddles these two perspectives to link his family's dramatic story to Italy's north-south divide, its quest for a unifying language, and its passion for art, food, and family. Luzzi creates a deeply personal portrait of Italy that leaps past facile clichés about Mafia madness and Tuscan sun therapy. He delves instead into why Italian Americans have such a complicated relationship with the "old country," and how Italy produces some of the world's most astonishing art, while suffering from

corruption, political fragmentation, and an enfeebled civil society.

With topics ranging from the pervasive force of Dante's poetry to the meteoric rise of Silvio Berlusconi, Luzzi's *My Two Italies* presents the Italians in both all

their glory and squalor, relating the problems that plague Italy today to the country's ancient roots. He shares how his "two Italies"—the earthy southern Italian world of his immigrant childhood and the refined northern Italian realm of his professional life—join and clash in unexpected ways that continue to enchant the many millions who are either



The Book Club meets at 7:00 P.M. at the IACC and is free and open to the public. For further information contact Dick Ognibene at rtognibene@nycap.rr.com or at 372-4919.

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### By-Law Changes presented by Jeanne Wilson

Two changes are being proposed to the By-Laws (last revised and adopted in November, 2014). All board members approved of the changes to the By-Laws. This change must also be approved by a majority vote of the members present at our next General Membership meeting on **Wednesday, May 20**<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. Members are asked to attend in order to show support of these changes. Note: deletions are represented with strikethrough while additions are underlined.

### **Proposed Change #1**

### Article VI, A. Number of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of thirteen (13) directors elected by the membership, the immediate Past President of the Corporation, and the then presiding President of the Women's League of the Corporation, the President of the IACC Foundation, and one designee of the President of the IACC Foundation. The IACC Foundation representatives must be IACC members.

# Yankees vs Phillies Baseball Game





### Wednesday, June 24

8:00 A.M. Meet in parking lot 8:15 A.M. Bus will leave IACC Parking Lot 1:05 P.M. Yankees vs. Philadelphia Phillies

Dinner stop on Arthur Avenue, Bronx 9:00 P.M. Estimated time bus will return to IACC

Transportation: Yankee Trails Video Coach

### **\$40 Members \$50 Non-Members**

Reservations: IACC Office 456-4222 SOLD OUT—Waitlist Questions: Jim Sano 438-4631

### **Proposed Change #2**

ARTICLE XIV - REVISIONS currently states:

- 1. These By-Laws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at any duly organized meeting of the members of the corporation in which event the proposed change(s) shall be mailed to the last recorded address of each member at least ten (10) days before the time of the meeting which is to consider the change(s).
- 2. A majority shall be determined at the time a quorum is established and shall remain consistent throughout the meeting.
- 3. Such revisions shall be required to be proposed upon the petition of at least five (5) current members in good standing. The Board of Directors must clearly list and separate these proposed revisions, which it supports or opposes in any notice to the membership concerning possible revisions to the By-Laws. The notice should indicate also the number of Directors favoring and opposing each revision.

Article 14 shall be stricken in its entirety and replaced with:

- 1. These By-Laws may be amended, repealed or altered, in whole or in part, at any duly held meeting of the Board of Directors.
- 2. The general membership shall retain its rights to rescind or modify any By Laws change at any duly held general membership meeting.

### **New Members**

### John Dilanni

Albany Sponsor: Cain Scalzo

### **Amalia Pawlak**

Schenectady Sponsor: Cain Scalzo

### **Courtney Peek**

Albany Sponsor: Maria Colbert

### **Charles & Barbara Trimarchi**

Albany Sponsor: Cain Scalzo

www.italianamerican.com



# IACC UPGRADES

We now have a NEW unisex, handicap accessible bathroom, a new TV, and card table covers!!!

Thank you to John Tirino for the great job on constructing our bathroom and to Nick Mancini for refurbishing the card tables in the membership room.









# Women's Bocce League IT'S ALMOST BOCCE TIME!

The Women's Bocce League will begin on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and play until Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. All games begin at 6:30 P.M., except the 1<sup>st</sup> week, when we begin at 6:00 P.M. Team Captains from last year should contact their teammates to make sure they are still available. Anyone with a vacancy should let me know as soon as possible so we can fill them. Ideally, each team should have 5 players, but 4 players are still acceptable.

Any and all ladies of the IACC are encouraged to join. Anyone who has played in the past can tell you how much fun we have. If you haven't played in the past, please give us a try—no experience needed!!

Please call me, 424-7463, to join our Women's Bocce League. Donna Zumbo, President WBL



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### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

# The American Italian Heritage Museum's Exhibit Room

May and June: *Room for Angels* - frescoes of Mico Apro, an international master buon fresco artist and painter. Mico studied under Master Fresco Artist Luigi DiPietro in Florence, Italy and has exhibited in numerous group and shows and she was awarded an educational 21 grant in 2007.

### Saturday, May 2-Annual Garage Sale 10:00 A.M.

The Museum is open to the public. The events are held in the Italian Cultural Center on the second floor of the museum. For details call the museum at 435-1979.

### Schenectady County Historical Society

is sponsoring tours of the Stockade District. To preregister or obtain more information, call 374-0263.

### Saturday, May 2 at 10:00 A.M.

"Discover Colonial Schenectady" ~ A walking tour of the Stockade District \$5 / Free for SCHS Members

### Wednesday, May 6 at 11:00 A.M.

"Secret Stockade: Historic Tour and Lunch" \$20

### Men's Bocce League

Beginning May 11, the men will play preseason bocce at 6:30 P.M. Games will be open to members and non-members. No official teams will be formed. Even if you have no experience, come join the fun. Members will be available to teach the fine points of the game. Call Jim Sano with any questions, 577-6158.

Regular season starts on June 8 and ends on August 31.





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### FINDING OUR IMMIGRANT ANCESTRY by Angelo F. Coniglio

### ITALIAN AND SICILIAN CIVIL BIRTH RECORDS

hen I began seriously searching for ancestral information, I expected that finding good original records would be difficult. For no particular reason, I thought record-keeping in the old country in the early 1900s, and certainly in the early 1800s, might be slipshod and hit-or-miss. What a surprise I had in store!

What we today call "birth certificates" were not used in those days in Italy or Sicily. The births in each year were recorded sequentially in a large Registro, a register or ledger, where they are kept to this day. Civil birth records are called Atti di Nascita, and generally include, for each year, an index of all the year's births. These are usually, but not always, directly after the records for a given year. In the best case, indexed names are alphabetized by surname, and each has a number before or after it showing the number of the page or record. Often, alphabetization was by first letter only. However, in some cases, it was fully alphabetic. Sometimes the index was listed alphabetically by first name, or simply by an un-alphabetized chronological list. The indices for births sometimes give details like birth dates and parents' names.

The actual record can contain much more information, as follows: record or page number, child's name, record date and time (not necessarily the same as the birth date), birth date, father's name, paternal grandfather's name, father's age, occupation, and address, mother's name (including maiden name), occupation, and age, and maternal grandfather's name. This data is often followed by names, ages, and occupations of two witnesses (not to the birth, but to the registration of the birth). There may also be a statement saying that the act (record) was read to all present and signed by those who knew how to write. This can be an unexpected bonus: If your ancestor's father knew how to write, you'll see an image of his signature!

Below is a full translation of a typical civil birth record of my father, Gaetano Coniglio, in the format used from 1875 through 1910. These records were "boilerplate". The basic format was the same for most towns, and understanding one opens the key to all. Underlined italics represent handwritten entries on a pre-printed form.

### RECORD OF BIRTH

Record Number 158

Gaetano Coniglio

In the year one thousand eight hundred eighty-nine, on day twenty-seven of April, at ten AM, in the Town Hall.

Before me, Pasquale Vaccari, Secretary delegated by act of the Mayor on twenty-four April
one thousand eight hundred eighty-eight, duly approved Official of Public Records of the Town of Serradifalco
Appeared Gaetano Coniglio, age fifty-three, a sulfur miner living in Serradifalco, who has declared to me that at five PM,
on day twenty-six of the current month, in the house located at via Migliore number ten,
by Carmela Calabrese, his wife, a homemaker, who lives with the declarant himself;

was born a baby boy who was presented for me to see, and who was given the name <u>Gaetano</u>
To the above, and to this record, are present the witnesses <u>Vincenzo Barile</u>, age <u>thirty</u>, <u>a sulfur miner</u>, and <u>Salvatore Barile</u>, age <u>thirty-six</u>, <u>a sulfur miner</u>, both residents of this community.

The present act was read to those in attendance but is signed by me alone, the informant and witnesses having said that they don't know how to sign P Vaccari

From his age when presenting the child, the father's birth year can be estimated as 1836, and his birth record, in turn, can be found. Witnesses may have been casual observers or family members; or brought by the father and paid a small stipend by the father or the town, depending on local custom. This particular record also had a "margin note" written years after the birth, stating "Gaetano Coniglio married Rosa Alessi on December 1st 1912". To see the original record, in Italian, go to http://bit.ly/1889BirthRecord.

Coniglio is the author of the book The Lady of the Wheel, inspired by his Sicilian research. You may order the paperback or the Kindle version at http://amzn.to/racalmuto. Coniglio's web page at bit.ly/AFCGen has helpful hints on genealogic research. If you have genealogy questions or would like him to lecture to your club or group, e-mail him at genealogytips@aol.com.

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### **CHAIR YOGA**



Yoga instructor, Tracy Swanson will teach a yoga class called "Chair Yoga". Chair Yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is practiced sitting in a chair or standing using the chair for

support. Everyone can do this. The class will be a five week program on Thursday evenings (May 14<sup>th</sup> through June 11<sup>th</sup>). The class will be held upstairs in the IACC Boardroom and at 6:30 P.M. for one hour. Classes are open to men and women. Please call the membership office at 456-IACC (4222) to sign up.

Wear loose, comfortable clothing!

Price: \$30 for 5 weeks or \$8 per class to Drop-In.



### Jacqueline C. Fontaine, Associate Broker, GRI Relocation Specialist & Residential Marketing Expert

The real estate market has had its ups and downs over the past few years and we are very happy to say that we had a significant increase in business over the prior year. This was the result of hard work and taking care of our clients and their referrals by our Awesome Team. As a way of saying "Thank You", I want to offer you a cash reward of up to \$500\* when buying or selling a home.



\* conditions apply

### Contact Jacquie at 518-339-0163

or by email at JacquieFontaine@gmail.com or visit my website at www.jacquiefontaine.com

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# TREASURES OF THE VENETO AND EMILIA-ROMAGNA: ART CITIES, MUSIC, WINE, CARS, AND FOOD

### August 30 through September 15, 2015

Join us for a stellar tour of this spectacular and gastronomically celebrated area of Bella Italia! We will ride a gondola, visit vineyards, marvel at the beauty of Palladian's architectural masterpieces, and attend a live lyric performance in the ancient Arena di Verona. In Bologna and Parma we will have our fill of history and stuffed pasta. There will be a visit to the Ferrari Museum. We will attend demonstrations of how Parmigiano cheese, balsamic vinegars, and violins are made. In Verdi country, around Bussetto, we will visit with Massimo Spigaroli, acknowledged master in the production of the king of Italian salumi, Culatello di Zibello. Many more unique, memorable experiences are being planned. Very few openings are left for this one-of-a-kind very special, small group tour!

# Momen's League

### Ciao Ladies,

I am shivering as I sit in my kitchen and write this...Oh please, let the air warm up and be gentle!! Hopefully it will be better by publish time. There is so much to report this month...

Our April meeting took place on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and it was a very nice evening. A yummy dinner was followed by a beauty presentation by our Sephora experts, Marilena and Molly. Along with plenty of Q & A, several members received a mini-makeover, with tips on the simple things all of us can do to just brighten up a look. Afterwards, Carolina and I demonstrated various ways to place, wrap, and tie a scarf in order to accent an outfit. Everyone received a new scarf to enjoy.

I am very happy to know that Women's Bocce League will begin on May 12<sup>th</sup>. This is a definite rite of spring and lots of fun. If you have not tried it out yet, call Donna Zumbo and get involved. There are still some teams that need to filled in. We have wonderful camaraderie and it is a delightful evening out.

We are also looking forward to the Mother/Daughter Luncheon and Fashion Show on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Try to make your reservations early and feel free to reserve an entire table for your party. From what I've overheard it sounds like a very special event for adults as well as those beautiful girls in their spring finery.

At this time of year, we need to complete the formation of a roster for a new executive board. I'm happy to report that we have succeeded: The new President will be Donna Zumbo and the new Vice President will be Maria DeNitto. Gail Tarantino will be Secretary and Joan Wallis will continue as Treasurer. Of course, we will vote on this in June.

At our May meeting, we will be entertained by Matt Nugent from the Short and Stout Tea Company. Matt is an expert on many beverages related to tea and the histories of many exotic White, Green, Oolong, Black, and Yerba Mate tea varieties. We will have a tasting, as we learn all about tea, and then will be able to have tea with dessert. It should be a fun and informative presentation.

Our May meeting will take place on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. After salad, dinner choices will be Chicken Cognac, Steak Pizzaiolo, or Manicotti. We will have Strawberry Shortcake for dessert with our tea. The cost is \$20. Please be considerate in ordering (and canceling) to Donna Zumbo at dzumbo 13@hotmail.com or 424-7463.

Before closing, let's all remember to say a prayer for Jeanne Sacca's speedy recovery from the fall she endured while waiting for the Women's League meeting to begin. Come back soon Jeanne. We love you.

Ciao until next month ladies!

Maria La Morte, Women's League President

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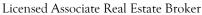
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**CARING & SHARING** 

### **May Birthdays**

Joseph Allegretti Michael Anton Liz Asadourian Mark Audino John Chiaramonte Patricia Corsi John DerBoghossian Carmela DiCerbo Bernard DiTano Michael Doyle Charles Ferrara Susan Figliomeni Michael Fondacaro Michelina Forte Frances Franke Otis Hall Dennis Ippoliti Teresa Ippoliti Craig Knack Jim Knapik MaryJean Knowles



Rosemary McHugh Linda Metallo Maria Moffa Mary Eileen Nolfo Josephine Paolucci Linda Papa Dianne Patterson Richard Picciocca Marilyn Quadrini Terry Rinaldi Bernae Rogers Mary Ryan Regina Sacca Robin Sacco Meg Salamack Rachelle Salerno Iosephine Sano Gino Sestito Ianet Trichilo Raphael Vitillo Nancy Zeoli

### Well Wishes

Catherine Kollias

Joseph Lapetina

Arthur Lucarelli

Sal Macaione

Jeanne Sacca recently underwent surgery and Josephine Sano is recuperating from her recent hospital visit. We wish them both good health and a speedy recovery.

### Condolences

It is with great sadness that we report the loss of Linda Doyle, wife of Mike Doyle and a longtime member of the IACC. Linda was such a presence at the pool every summer and will be deeply missed. We would like to extend our condolences to Mike and the entire Doyle family.

Please contact Christine Dilonna at: cdiionna@gmail.com or 357-8711, if you would like to share any special announcements in Siamo Qui.

### Calcionetti or Cagionetti

(Italian Chick Pea-Chocolate Nut Filled Fried Christmas Cookies)

By Josephine Sano

### FOR THE DOUGH:

2 cups all-purpose flour 1/2 cup powdered sugar Pinch salt

2 Tablespoons shortening 2 eggs

1/2 teaspoon lemon zest

### FOR THE FILLING:

1/2 cup chick peas, cooked

1/4 cup brown sugar2 Tablespoons honey

2 Tablespoons grated chocolate 1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts

### FOR THE PREPARATION:

Vegetable oil, to fry

1/4 cup milk, to seal dough Powdered sugar, to dust cookies

TO MAKE THE DOUGH: Sift together flour, sugar and salt. Mix in shortening using hands or pastry cutter until crumbly. Add eggs and lemon zest. Mix until just incorporated.

Use pasta machine to roll out half the dough to 1/8-inch thickness and forming a long rectangular shape (roughly 15 inches by 3 inches), being careful not to overwork dough. Repeat with other half of dough. Set aside.

Preheat vegetable oil to 360 degrees.

TO MAKE THE FILLING: Use fork to mash chickpeas thoroughly. Stir in brown sugar, honey, grated chocolate, and chopped walnuts. Drop heaping teaspoonfuls of filling along length of rectangular dough (leaving 1-inch between spoonfuls) keeping to one side. This should be enough room for about 10 spoonfuls.

TO SHAPE AND COOK: With pastry brush use milk to moisten area around each filling spoonful. Fold dough lengthwise over filling and press down to remove any air and to seal edges.

With a fluted pastry cutter or pizza cutter, cut into squares to form individual cookies. Repeat procedure with remaining filling and dough.

Fry cookies in hot vegetable oil until golden brown. Remove and place on paper towels to drain excess oil. Top with honey and/or dust with powdered sugar.





Community Center

a place where family and friends can meet, eat, play and celebrate Italian heritage

518-456-IACC IACCOffice@italianamerican.com

italianamerican.com 257 Washington Ave. Extension Albany, NY 12205

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# Join the Italian American Community Center





a place where family and friends can meet, eat, play and celebrate Italian heritage

### **ORGANIZATIONS**

55+ Club • Book Club • IACC Foundation Men's and Women's Bocce Leagues Women's League



Area's Best Italian Restaurant and Banquet Facilities In-ground 60 x 30 Heated Pool Children's Playground • Meeting Rooms **Entertainment Room for Cards / Billiards / TV** Four Covered Bocce Courts . Basketball Court Outdoor Pavilion for Gatherings • Horseshoe Pits

Call 456-IACC (4222) for details



